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EXAMINER

HOANG, SON T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2165

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05/29/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/531,652	LOUREIRO, JORGE DINIZ	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SON T. HOANG	2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 March 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3-16 and 18-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-16 and 18-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Amendment

1. This communication is in response to the amendment filed on March 24, 2009.

Claims 1-2, 17, and 21-28 are canceled.

Claims 3-15 are amended.

Claims 3-16, and 18-20 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. The 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and 35 U.S.C. 101 rejections of **claims 3-16** are withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment.

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to the rejections of **claims 3-16, and 18-20** have been fully considered but are not persuasive.

Applicant argues towards the 35 U.S.C. 102(e) rejections of **claims 3, 15-16, and 18** regarding the fact that Oren does not teach or disclose "*linking the sub-portions of each of the plurality of portions of the database to one another in a predetermined sequential arrangement.*"

The Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant's above remark. Accordingly, Oren teaches linking the sub-portions of each of the plurality of portions of the database to one another in a predetermined sequential arrangement such that, when the information is stored in the sub-portions, each subsequent sub-portion in the predetermined sequential arrangement contains further information on the topic (*The data units may comprise pages and chapters, each chapter being linked to one or more pages. At least one hypertext link may link each chapter to each of the one or more pages linked to that*

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*chapter. Further, at least one page may be linked simultaneously to two or more chapters, one chapter of which is labeled as a default chapter for the at least one page, [Column 4, Lines 37-44]]. It is clearly shown a chapter is a portion of a book, and pages of each chapter are sub-portions of a portion. Further, Oren discloses a hierarchical relationship between pages (sub-portions) of a chapter (portion) (*a page or chapter may be a child to more than one parent, i.e., a page or chapter may have multiple parents. For example, the page represented by 18a has two parents 18b and 18c. The page 18a can therefore be accessed through either of the two parents, [Column 7, Lines 18-25]]*).*

Claims 4-14, and 19-20 are also rejected for similar reasons presented above.

Thus, the Examiner contends that all limitations as recited in the claims have been addressed in this Action. Hence, Applicant's arguments do not distinguish over the claimed invention over the prior arts of record.

For the above reasons, the Examiner believes the rejection of this instant Office action is proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate Paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this Section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an

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international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

5. **Claims 3, 15-16, 18** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Oren et al. (*Pat. No. US 6,539,387, filed on July 7, 1997; hereinafter Oren*).

Regarding **claim 3**, Oren clearly shows and discloses a computer-storage medium having computer program instructions stored thereon, the computer program instructions causing a processor to execute a method to enable management of information relating to a particular topic ([Column 3, Lines 56-63]), comprising:

compiling a database in which the information is stored, the database comprising a plurality of portions, each of the plurality of portions being subdivided into sub-portions in which information is stored (*Figure 2 shows the database structure with the circles 18 representing documents or pages containing information and the lines 20 representing connections between the pages 18. The pages are organized in a hierarchical fashion--each page is*

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assigned to a level in the hierarchy and connections or links are made between pages at one level and related pages at other levels. The hierarchy is organized as chapters, one or more levels of subchapters, and pages within the chapters or subchapters, [Column 7, Lines 5-17]); and

linking the sub-portions of each of the plurality of portions of the database to one another in a predetermined sequential arrangement such that, when the information is stored in the sub-portions, each subsequent sub-portion in the predetermined sequential arrangement contains further information on the topic *(The data units may comprise pages and chapters, each chapter being linked to one or more pages. At least one hypertext link may link each chapter to each of the one or more pages linked to that chapter. Further, at least one page may be linked simultaneously to two or more chapters, one chapter of which is labeled as a default chapter for the at least one page, [Column 4, Lines 37-44]. A page or chapter may be a child to more than one parent, i.e., a page or chapter may have multiple parents. For example, the page represented by 18a has two parents 18b and 18c. The page 18a can therefore be accessed through either of the two parents, [Column 7, Lines 18-25]).*

Regarding **claim 15**, Oren clearly shows and discloses an information management product ([Column 3, Lines 56-63]), which comprises:

a computer-storage medium for storing a database component and a computer program component;

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said database component configured to store information relating to a particular topic, wherein the database component is stored on the computer-storage medium and comprising a plurality of portions, each of the plurality of portions are subdivided into sub-portions in which information on a particular aspect of the topic is stored (*Figure 2 shows the database structure with the circles 18 representing documents or pages containing information and the lines 20 representing connections between the pages 18. The pages are organized in a hierarchical fashion--each page is assigned to a level in the hierarchy and connections or links are made between pages at one level and related pages at other levels. The hierarchy is organized as chapters, one or more levels of subchapters, and pages within the chapters or subchapters, [Column 7, Lines 5-17]); and*

said computer program component configured to manage the information relating to the particular topic stored by the database component, wherein the computer program component is stored on the computer-storage medium and executable by a processor and including program instructions for linking the sub-portions of each of the plurality of portions to one another in a predetermined sequential arrangement wherein the information is stored in the sub-portions and each subsequent sub-portion in the predetermined sequential arrangement contains further information on the topic (*The data units may comprise pages and chapters, each chapter being linked to one or more pages. At least one hypertext link may link each chapter to each of the one or more pages linked to that chapter. Further, at least one page may be linked simultaneously to two or more*

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chapters, one chapter of which is labeled as a default chapter for the at least one page, [Column 4, Lines 37-44]. A page or chapter may be a child to more than one parent, i.e., a page or chapter may have multiple parents. For example, the page represented by 18a has two parents 18b and 18c. The page 18a can therefore be accessed through either of the two parents, [Column 7, Lines 18-25]).

Regarding **claim 16**, Oren further discloses the sub-portions are linked to one another in a predetermined sequential arrangement wherein each subsequent sub-portion in the sequential arrangement can contain further information on the topic (*The hierarchy is organized as chapters, one or more levels of subchapters, and pages within the chapters or subchapters, [Column 7, Lines 5-17]. It is clear that subchapter provides further information of the corresponding chapter*).

Regarding **claim 18**, Oren clearly shows and discloses a method of compiling a database of information relating to a particular topic ([Column 3, Lines 20-24]), which includes the steps of:

compiling a plurality of portions of the database, wherein each of the plurality of portions is subdivided into a plurality of sub-portions (*Figure 2 shows the database structure with the circles 18 representing documents or pages containing information and the lines 20 representing connections between the pages 18. The pages are organized in a hierarchical fashion--each page is assigned to a level in the hierarchy and connections or links are made between*

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pages at one level and related pages at other levels The hierarchy is organized as chapters, one or more levels of subchapters, and pages within the chapters or subchapters, [Column 7, Lines 5-17]);

linking each of the plurality of sub-portions of each of the plurality of portions of the database to one another in a predetermined sequential arrangement (*The data units may comprise pages and chapters, each chapter being linked to one or more pages. At least one hypertext link may link each chapter to each of the one or more pages linked to that chapter. Further, at least one page may be linked simultaneously to two or more chapters, one chapter of which is labeled as a default chapter for the at least one page, [Column 4, Lines 37-44]); and*

storing the information by inserting the information in the sub-portions in an arrangement wherein each subsequent sub-portion contains further information on the topic than in an immediately preceding sub-portion to which the subsequent sub-portion is linked (*The data units may comprise pages and chapters, each chapter being linked to one or more pages. At least one hypertext link may link each chapter to each of the one or more pages linked to that chapter. Further, at least one page may be linked simultaneously to two or more chapters, one chapter of which is labeled as a default chapter for the at least one page, [Column 4, Lines 37-44]. A page or chapter may be a child to more than one parent, i.e., a page or chapter may have multiple parents. For example, the page represented by 18a has two parents 18b and 18c. The page 18a can*

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therefore be accessed through either of the two parents, [Column 7, Lines 18-25]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 4-7, 14, and 19-20**, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oren et al. (*Pat. No. US 6,539,387, filed on July 7, 1997; hereinafter Oren*) in view of Flinn et al. (*Pub. No. US 2001/0047358, filed on March 13, 2001; hereinafter Flinn*).

Regarding **claims 4, and 19**, Oren discloses establishing a user-executable navigation link from at least one sub-portion of the database to another sub-portion of the database, thereby permitting a user to navigate from said one portion to said other sub-portion, and returning a user to the sub-portion from which the navigation link is made, in use ([Column 6, Line 1 → Column 7, Line 13]).

Oren does not explicitly disclose recording the address in the database of each sub-portion from which a navigation link is made.

However, Flinn discloses recording the address in the database of each sub-portion from which a navigation link is made (*the referenced information may*

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include files, text, documents, articles, images, audio, video, multi-media, software applications and electronic or magnetic media or signals. Where the content object supplies a pointer to information, the pointer may be a memory address. Where the content network encapsulates information on the Internet, the pointer may be a Uniform Resource Locator (URL), [0044])

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Flinn with the teachings of Oren for the purpose of managing information encapsulates the information as objects by facilitating the relationship between the objects ([Abstract] of Flinn).

Regarding **claims 5**, and **20**, Oren further discloses displaying a view of the sub-portion from which the navigation link is made, in the same format as it was displayed before the navigation link to another sub-portion was made (*each screen or page is limited to contain only as much information, i.e., only as many paragraphs, as can be displayed at one time on a display. This is implemented by storing the paragraph height for each paragraph in the Paragraph table. This presents all the information in a screen to the user at once, and avoids the need for the user to scroll down the screen in order to see additional information, [Column 7, Lines 58-65]*).

Regarding **claims 6**, and **14**, Flinn further discloses recording and displaying title information representing each sub-portion from which the navigation link is made so as to provide a user with a record of those sub-portions of the database from which navigation links are made (*meta-information include a tile, a sub-title, one or more descriptions of the topic provided at*

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different levels of detail, the publisher of the topic meta-information, the date the topic object was created. Meta-information may also include a pointer such as uniform resource locator (URL), [0045]. See further [0111] for displaying the metadata)

Regarding **claim 7**, Oren further discloses defining primary key expressions in information that is stored, in use, by a compiler in selected sub-portions of the database and for establishing said navigation link to said other sub-portion of the database by a user selecting said primary key expression (*Each paragraph is also assigned a type, which is stored in the Paragraph table shown in FIG. 3. The choice of paragraph types varies depending upon the type of chapter, and these choices are stored in the Paragraph types table 27 and linked to the Paragraph table 22. For example, a disease type chapter has paragraph types including those shown as headings in FIG. 4. The use of these chapter and paragraph types provides the capability to perform a keyword search for a word or term limited to a specific type of chapter or paragraph, or to limit a search through an index to a specific type of chapter or paragraph, [Column 8, Lines 55-65]*).

8. **Claims 8-11** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oren et al. (*Pat. No. US 6,539,387, filed on July 7, 1997; hereinafter Oren*) in view of Flinn et al. (*Pub. No. US 2001/0047358, filed on March 13, 2001;*

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hereinafter Flinn), and further in view of Flora et al. (*Pat. No. US 6,714,215, filed on May 19, 2000; hereinafter Flora*).

Regarding **claim 8**, Oren, as modified by Flinn, does not explicitly disclose establishing explanatory notes in which information can be entered by a compiler and for defining secondary key expressions in information that is stored, in use, by a compiler in selected sub-portions of the database and for linking each secondary key expression to a particular associated explanatory note in an arrangement wherein the selection of a primary key expression by a user will cause the associated explanatory note to be displayed.

However, Flora discloses establishing explanatory notes in which information can be entered by a compiler and for defining secondary key expressions in information that is stored, in use, by a compiler in selected sub-portions of the database and for linking each secondary key expression to a particular associated explanatory note in an arrangement wherein the selection of a primary key expression by a user will cause the associated explanatory note to be displayed (*the user is able to execute a hyperlink and display an expanded version of the visual media item. The user can jump to an expanded version of a visual media item that could include such things as explanatory text, related text articles or further hyperlinks to related information, [Column 7, Lines 39-52]*).

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Flora with the teachings of Oren, as modified by Flinn, for the purpose of allowing a user to directly access

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items of visual and/or audio media by passing a cursor over points on an electronic map ([Abstract] of Flora).

Regarding **claim 9**, Flora further discloses defining primary key expressions in said explanatory notes and for establishing said navigation link from primary key expressions in said explanatory notes, to pre-determined sub-portions of the database (*a user is able to execute a hyperlink and display an expanded version of the visual media item. This expanded version could include further hyperlinks to related information or related text articles, ([Column 7, Lines 39-52]). It is obvious that these further hyperlinks could be primary expressions which link to another portion of the database*).

Regarding **claim 10**, Flora further discloses defining secondary key expressions in selected explanatory notes and for linking each secondary key expression to another explanatory note (*a user is able to execute a hyperlink and display an expanded version of the visual media item. This expanded version could include further hyperlinks to related information or related text articles, ([Column 7, Lines 39-52]). It is obvious that these further hyperlinks could be secondary expressions which link to another portion of the database*).

Regarding **claim 11**, Flinn further discloses establishing default explanatory notes in which information can be entered by a compiler, the program instructions being operable to display the default explanatory note simultaneously with the information in a particular sub-portion of the database (*The topic-based navigation mode enables users to view and select topic objects in the content network. When a topic object is selected, the display interface is*

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reorganized to allow the direct viewing of the meta-information associated with the topic object as well as related topic objects. Further, during the topic-based navigation mode, the display interface includes a related content window, which presents a summary of content objects that are pertinent to the selected topic. Accordingly, meta-information for the related content object is displayed, as well as related objects, [0110]-[0111]).

9. **Claims 12-13** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oren et al. (Pat. No. US 6,539,387, filed on July 7, 1997; hereinafter Oren) in view of Flinn et al. (Pub. No. US 2001/0047358, filed on March 13, 2001; hereinafter Flinn), further in view of Flora et al. (Pat. No. US 6,714,215, filed on May 19, 2000; hereinafter Flora), and further in view of Nielsen (Pat. No. US 5,761,436, published on June 2, 1998).

Regarding **claim 12**, Oren, as modified by Flinn and Flora, does not teach a feedback component permitting any part of the information contained in a sub-portion or explanatory note of the database, to be selected by a user, and for the user's selection to be recorded.

However, Nielsen discloses a feedback component including program instructions permitting any part of the information contained in a sub-portion or explanatory note of the database, to be selected by a user, and for the user's selection to be recorded (*a user interface that allows a user to interact with a*

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computer display by pointing at selectable control areas on the display and activating a command or computer operation associated with the selectable control area, [Column 4, Lines 11-15]).

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Nielsen with the teachings of Oren, as modified by Flora and Flinn, for the purpose of allowing the user to more quickly find and reference previously viewed hypernode by providing a hypertext user with a history facility for displaying accessed hypernodes ([Abstract] of Nielsen).

Regarding **claim 13**, Nielson further discloses recording users' selections of primary and secondary key expressions (*A user interface that allows a user to interact with a computer display by pointing at selectable control areas on the display and activating a command or computer operation associated with the selectable control area, [Column 4, Lines 11-15]). It's obvious that the primary and secondary key expressions are recorded since their accessed records are used to make up the history list for displaying accessed hypernodes).*

Conclusion

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory

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action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Son T. Hoang whose telephone number is (571) 270-1752. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday (7:00 AM – 4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Neveen Abel-Jalil can be reached on (571) 272-4074. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service

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Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. T. H./
Examiner, Art Unit 2165
May 27, 2009

/Neveen Abel-Jalil/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2165